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Coul regulated protease capable of cleaving said proinsulin cleavage site to produce insulin.

Cx 28. (Amended) A method of treating diabetes or forestalling a clinical symptom indicative of diabetes comprising implanting into an individual cells coexpressing an insulin precursor containing a proinsulin cleavage site, a glucose-regulated protease capable of cleaving said proinsulin cleavage site to produce insulin, and a hexosamine biosynthetic pathway enzyme.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1-40 are pending and claims 17-39 are currently under examination in the above identified application. By the present communication claims 17 and 28 have been amended. Support for the amendments to claims 17 and 28 can be found in the specification including, for example, on page 16, line 9, through page 17, line 32 and page 37, line 5, through page 41, line 24. Accordingly, the amendments do not introduce new matter. Therefore, entry of the amendments is respectfully requested. A marked-up version of the amended claims to show changes made is attached hereto as Appendix A.

Applicants appreciate the time and helpful comments of Examiner Ewoldt in a personal interview held with Applicants' representative and Dr. Osborne on August 15, 2002. In the interview, the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph were discussed. Applicants believe that the